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BENJAMIN A		
BERMAN, H S		
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GOODWIN, R		
HANNI, B J		
HEALY, T J		
HILBIG, J G		
IDEKER, E H		
KIRBY, W A		
KRIEG, D		
KUESTER, A W		
LEE, E M		
MARX, G E		
MORGAN, R V		
PIZZUTO, V M		
POTTER, G L		
SANDLIN, N B		
SATTERWHITE, D G		
SCHUBERT, A I		
SHEPLER, R L		
SULLIVAN, M T		
SWANSON, E R		
TAMM, K G		
WILSON, J M		
ZANE, J O		

Lindberg R XIX

Levin M XIX

CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL
TRAFFICReviewed for Addressee
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8-6-92

DATE BY

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Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS OFFICE
P O BOX 928
GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402 0928

JUL 1 1992

92-DOE-8494

AUG 7 1992

Mr Martin Hestmark
U S Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII
ATTN Rocky Flats Project Manager, 8HWM-RI
999 18th Street, Suite 500, 8WM-C
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

Dear Mr. Hestmark

This letter is in response to an EPA request to revise the final Background Geochemical Characterization Plan for the Rocky Flats Plant, received by DOE on June 30, 1992

The Background Characterization Report, which is currently being written, is based on this plan. Therefore, DOE will revise the plan and incorporate those changes into the current report. Both the revised plan and the report will be delivered to EPA on September 30, 1992.

A draft Background Characterization Report was scheduled to be delivered to EPA on July 31, 1992, to allow concurrent review with the Remedial Investigation Report for Operable Unit 1 (OU1). This draft review will be unnecessary because the submittal date for the OU1 report has been extended to October 28, 1992. Only the final report will be submitted.

In order to maximize the amount of data available for use in the background report, DOE proposes, upon the approval of EPA, to use unvalidated as well as validated data for statistical analysis of background data. All data will eventually be validated as required by the IAG (Part VI B 5 b). Quality assurance/quality control documentation and conditions for 100% validation will not be affected by this report. The intention is to use the data prior to 100% validation as a means to use a larger amount of data in the report. The resulting uncertainty in the background statistics created by use of this data is estimated to be insignificant compared to uncertainties caused by errors inherent in field acquisition and laboratory analysis.

Attached is a table of percentages of validated data compared to all available data. These are minimum estimates as of July 1, 1992. A large number of samples have been validated since the generation of this table, and the majority of samples will have been validated by the September submittal date.

An expeditious response would be appreciated, as work is currently being done on this project. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Jen Pepe of my staff at 966-2184.

Sincerely,

James K. Hartman
Assistant Manager
for Environmental Management

M Hestmark
92-DOE-8494

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JUL 31 1992

Enclosure

cc w/Enclosure
M Levin, EG&G
R Lindberg, EG&G
G Baughman, CDH
B Lavelle, EPA

MINIMUM PERCENT AVAILABLE VALIDATED DATA

	GROUNDWATER	SURFACE AND SEEP WATER	SEDIMENTS	GEOLOGIC MATERIAL
METALS	29 51%	38 09%	47 27%	87 79%
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS	55 88%	39 91%	43 40%	
RADIONUCLIDES	29 11%	24 97%	35 76%	
WATER QUALITY	37 22%	36 42%	54 22%	89 22%